

Imported pottery from Boston, BGSA01.

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A small quantity of imported medieval and later pottery was found on site BGSA01. Most of the types found are already known from other sites in the town but there is one very unusual type, a casserole of Westerwald stoneware. This vessel is sufficiently interesting to be worthy of display and local publication. The *schnelle* sherd from context [2162] is also a rare type and can probably be identified if photographs of the mould are circulated to other specialists.

The finds span the 13th to late 18th centuries and there is no strong concentration of finds within this bracket.

Catalogue

[US 2000 Mitigation] Low Countries Red Earthenware

Two sherds from a frying pan. Internally glazed and externally sooted.

[US Trench 1] Frechen stoneware

Two sherds from a Frechen stoneware vessel of unknown form. Mid 16th to late 17th century.

[US Trench 1] Early German Stoneware

A sherd from a small vessel with an external brown slip. Corrugated body. 13th century?

[US Trench 1] Westerwald stoneware

The base of a grey stoneware vessel. Probably a Westerwald stoneware drinking jug or tankard of late 17th to mid 18th century date but possibly a Seltzer (mineral water) bottle of late 18th or 19th century date. [259] Raeren stoneware

A body sherd from a Raeren stoneware drinking jug, late 15th or, more probably, early to mid 16th-century date.

[270] North French monochrome ware

Part of the base of a North French Monochrome ware jug. The base has been removed from the wheel with a wire and has received no further treatment. The body is glazed down to the base angle with a mottled green glaze, coloured by copper.

[2159] Langerwehe stoneware

The base of a large jug, possibly the same vessel as in [2160] (see below)

[2160] Westerwald stoneware

The bowl from a casserole set (*Dekelterrine*). The vessel is decorated on the exterior with three stamps: a stylised tulip, a five-lobed leaf or flower and a small circle. The stamps are arranged randomly around the vessel and the background is filled with scoring applied freehand after the stamps had been applied. Cobalt blue paint was used to fill the leaves of the tulip and the leaf and circle stamps. The vessel has at least one horizontal handle, with a circular cross-section and painted blue. The rim is lid-seated with a blue band around the flange. In the Cologne museum catalogue, a very similar vessel was dated to the 2nd half of the 18th century and attributed to Westerwald - Hessen (Von Boch 19**, No.733).

[2160] Langerwehe stoneware

A sherd from the base of a large jug, probably used for storage or transport of liquids. The vessel is a light brown to grey stoneware with a brown wash, partially ash-glazed on the exterior. The vessel has a thumb-frilled foot ring in which the finger and thumb impressions are present on both side of the frill.

Langerwehe stoneware jugs of this sort were produced at Langerwehe, on the Maas in the 14th and 15th centuries (Hurst *et al* 1986, 184-190). The specific base form found on this piece is paralleled on a vessel in the Van Beuningen collection (Hurst *et al* 1986, Fig. 91 No.273) classified by Hurst as a Type II jug of 14th-century date.

[2162] Low Countries Red Earthenware

The foot and base of a cauldron of Low Countries Red Earthenware. Such vessels were produced at a number of sites in the Netherlands and Belgium in the 13th to 17th centuries. The peak of importation to England was the 14th, 15th and early 16th centuries, after which the immigration of low countries potters meant that similar wares could be produced locally (Such vessels are coded DUTRT, meaning that without further analysis it is not possible to distinguish Low Countries vessels from English copies).

[2162] Siegburg stoneware

A body sherd from a Siegburg stoneware *schnelle*. These vessels were tall, slightly tapering beer mugs decorated with large complex panels formed by sprigging (ie slip or plastic clay was poured or pressed into a mould which was shaped to fit a standardised body. When the clay was leather-hard it was then carefully lifted out of the mould and stuck onto the body using liquid slip to bond the two together. The panel has at its centre a bearded bust of late 16th-century type and an inscription in upper case Roman lettering with small diamonds as stops between the words and a five-petalled flower to mark the beginning/end of the inscription. The inscription starts as follows

“[start][stop]VAN[stop]GADES[break]’ and finishes “[start]NICK[stop]ZV[stop]SPAN[end]”

[2190] Low Countries Red Earthenware

A body sherd, probably from a cauldron. Externally sooted.

